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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

CENTRAL INTELLIBENCE AGENCY SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3828

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

DATE 2001 2007

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY

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TO RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 5369 RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY 6323

INFO RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 5866

DT

CONTROLS

C O N F-I D E N T I A L STATE 056109

LONDON PASS TO E: MULLER; PARIS PASS TO EMIN MEDEIROS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/11/07

TEXT

TAGS: EFIN, UK, FR, SZ, ECON, PREL

SUBJECT: RELEASE OF HISTORICAL REPORTS ON NAZI GOLD

REF: A) BRUSSELS 2261, B) LONDON 3342, C) STATE 51879, D) BRUSSELS 2103

BRUSSELS PASS TO E: BREESE

- 1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY EUR DAS E. ANTHONY WAYNE, REASON:
- 1.5 (B) AND (D).
- (U) ACTION REQUEST SEE PARAGRAPH 4.
- 3. (C) A MARCH 22 FINANCIAL TIMES ARTICLE REPORTING AN ALLEGED CONCLUSION FROM THE SOON-TO-BE-RELEASED UK FCO HISTORICAL REPORT ON NON-MONETARY NAZI GOLD HAS FOCUSED DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION ON THE NEED TO COORDINATE MORE CLOSELY WITH THE BRITISH ON THE RELEASE OF OUR RESPECTIVE HISTORICAL REPORTS. THE ARTICLE QUOTES FROM UK FOREIGN SECRETARY MALCOLM RIFKIND'S MARCH 6 LETTER TO BRITISH MP GREVILLE JANNER TO THE EFFECT THAT NAZI AUTHORITIES MAY HAVE MIXED MONETARY AND NON-MONETARY GOLD. IT HINTS THAT THE UK FCO REPORT WILL CONCLUDE THAT SOME NAZI GOLD HELD

AT THE BANK OF ENGLAND THEREFORE PROBABLY CAME FROM HOLOCAUST VICTIMS. AT THE MARCH 20 MEETING OF THE TRIPARTITE GOLD COMMISSION (TGC), THE UK COMMISSIONER CONFIRMED THAT THE UK WOULD CIRCULATE COPIES OF ITS REPORT TO TGC PARTNERS BEFORE ITS PUBLIC RELEASE "SHORTLY AFTER EASTER" AND REPEATED BRITAIN'S DESIRE TO VIEW THE U.S. REPORT BEFORE ITS RELEASE. THE U.S. COMMISSIONER REAFFIRMED U.S. INTENTIONS TO BRIEF ALL INTERESTED COUNTRIES ON THE CONTENTS OF THE U.S. REPORT IN ADVANCE OF ITS RELEASE BUT COULD NOT YET OFFER SPECIFICS ON THE NATURE OF THE BRIEFING (REF D).

- 4. (C) EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM HMG THAT THE U.S. WILL SOON COME TO A DECISION ON THE MECHANICS OF BRIEFING THE BRITISH AND OTHER INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS ON THE CONTENTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF THE U.S. HISTORICAL REPORT PRIOR TO ITS RELEASE. AT THE SAME TIME, EMBASSY SHOULD ASK HMG TO CLARIFY WHEN ITS REPORT WILL BE RELEASED AND HOW THE REPORT'S CONTENTS WILL BE MADE KNOWN TO THE U.S. PRIOR TO PUBLICATION. WE WOULD LIKE TO BE PREPARED TO ADDRESS PUBLIC INQUIRIES.
- 5. (C) DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS THAT BOTH THE FRENCH AND THE BRITISH HAVE RESPONDED SEPARATELY TO TERRY BREESE, THE U.S. TGC COMMISSIONER, THAT THEY OPPOSE THE RELEASE OF ANY FURTHER TGC DOCUMENTS NOW (REF A). HOWEVER, POSTS SHOULD RECEIVE SHORTLY LETTERS FROM U/S EIZENSTAT FOR DELIVERY TO UK FOREIGN SECRETARY RIFKIND AND FRENCH MFA A/S GRASSET, RESPECTIVELY, ASKING THEM TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THEIR

DECISION. ALBRIGHT

ADMIN END OF MESSAGE

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